CAPTAIN GEORGE'S

COMIC WORLD

A WHIZZBANG W PUBLICATION

NO. 7

25 CENTS

REMEMBER, TACK AL... CAPTURED DURPHY FOR A TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD! ... C'MON, ROBIN, WE'RE GOING PLACES AGAIN!
GOING
WHAT YOU THINK! THAT'S PAL! RIGHT NOW YOU'RE LOOKIN' AT TH' SPIRIT OF ETERNAL YOUTH ..... IT SEZ IN TH... JE PRINT!
DADDY WARBUCKS
TIDMARSH
PUNJAB
The PHANTOM
by LEE FALK and RAY MOORE
JAIL, HOW'D I GET OUT SO FAST?
GLADDA FOOR-PUTS
LET GO OF ME!
OH, NO, WE'RE GOING PLACES TOGETHER!
WHERE--ARE YOU TAKING ME?
THE PHANTOM MOVES FAST--H... FISTS LANDING LIKE TRIPHA...
YOU'RE
AH KIN GIT THIS WEDDIN' A.M., AH SAVES TH' NICKEL FO' TODAY!!
THI... BE H... ...ENIN'!!- N-NOT AFTER ALL TH' Y'ARS AH HAS SUCCESSFULLY D-DODGED IT!!
SUR...
AN AH NOW PRONOUNCES YO', YU' PANIC-STRICKEN LOUT-AN' YO', YO' BOOTIFUL, TREMBLIN', YOUNG MORSEL MAN AN'--
STRIKE
FO...
NOW, DO WE HE... BLACKIE ? ... ALIVE ? RES... DAN TACK TO ... US AND CAPTURE ... DURPHY FOR THE REWARD MONEY!

SPECIAL SUPERMAN ISSUE

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SUPERMAN

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AFTER THIRTY-ONE YEARS, THE MAN OF STEEL IS STILL AS DURABLE AS HIS NAME

Little more than three decades ago, when the world seemed a much simpler place even though it was poised on the edge of the abyss of World War II, a figure in a red and blue costume appeared on the horizon of our consciousness.

From Krypton he came, so the story went, to appear in Action comics in June, 1938. The creation of writer Jerry Siegel and artist Joe Shuster, who had tried for five years to sell the strip, Superman was an instant hit which triggered an explosion in the comic book world which since as early as 1933 had consisted mainly of reprints of newspaper comic strips.

It would almost be impossible to count the number of super heroes "inspired" by the Siegel-Shuster creation, but it's safe to say that by 1940 they were running into the dozens, with the like of Blue Beetle, the Green Mask, the Flame, the Sandman, Hour-man, Ultra Man, the Spectre, Captain Marvel, Tornado Tom, Volton the Human Generator, and the Flash bouncing through the pages of full-color comic books. By that time, too, Superman was appearing in his own comic book (since June, 1939) as well as Action comics. And there were such offshoots as the Daisy Superman Krypto-Raygun, a gun-shaped projector that flashed a 28-frame Superman adventure story "on the wall or any ceiling or any smooth, light surface:" the Superman radio show with Clayton (Bud) Collyer and then Michael Fitzmaurice portraying the Man of Steel. Others in the cast included Joan Alexander as Lois Lane, Julian Noa as Perry White and Jackie Kelk as Jimmy Olson. Periodically, Batman and Robin made guest appearances on the show whenever Superman had been incapacitated by his achilles heel, his susceptibility to Kryptonite. Batman was played at different times by Stacy Harris, Gary Merrill and Matt Crowley and Ronald Liss appeared as Robin.

Remember the opening sequence?

Faster than a speeding bullet! (Gunshot and ricochet)

More powerful than a locomotive! (Locomotive effect)

Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound! (Flying effect, wind up full and under)

"Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird!

"It's a plane!

"It's Superman!!!"

In 1939, the Superman newspaper comic strip was syndicated by McClure (see the sequence below) and continued for approximately 20 years under the aegis of different artists including Wayne Boring who was responsible for some of the best sequences, artistically speaking. You'll probably notice the differences in the artwork in this special issue of Captain George's Comic World.

As well as radio, newspaper and comic book appearances, Superman also was the subject of an animated cartoon series from Paramount as well as live-action serials featuring first Kirk Allyn and then George Reeves in the title role. Reeves also appeared in 104 half-hour TV episodes.

Today, Superman still is going strong in Action Comics, Superman Comics, World's Finest and the Justice League of America as well as on CBS-TV in animated form, all of which adds up to the fact that he certainly lives up to his title of the Man of Steel as far as durability is concerned.

He is such an institution today, in fact, that it is almost impossible to believe that he ever was a figure of controversy. And yet, back in the late 1930s and early 40s, there was fierce debate over the desirability of such a superhuman character. According to Stephen Becker's Comic Art In America (Simon and Schuster, 1959) the arguments ran this way: "Superman was an ideal outlet for youth's unruly instincts: Superman was in the tradition of the American hero: Superman was a force for good in a world of evil. Or: Superman expressed an irresponsible social philosophy in which the average citizen abjured his own duties and let the marvel fulfill them: Superman was a glorification of the physical: Superman represented absolute power, which is ultimately corrupting."

Well, maybe the arguments against Superman had some validity and maybe not. Today they are irrelevant and meaningless. After all, you have to admit this is the age of protest, so when's the last time you saw a bunch of hippies picketing the comic book racks of your local magazine store because they thought Superman was a bad influence?

SUPERMAN
The Superman Is Born
By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster
KRYPTON, A DISTANT PLANET SO FAR ADVANCED IN EVOLUTION THAT IT BEARS A CIVILIZATION OF SUPERMEN -- BEINGS WHICH REPRESENT THE HUMAN RACE AT ITS ULTIMATE PEAK OF PERFECT DEVELOPMENT!
MILE AFTER MILE STREAKS BY AS JOR-L, KRYPTON'S FOREMOST SCIENTIST, RACES ALONG AT A TERRIFIC SPEED THAT WOULD OUT-DISTANCE THE FASTEST EXPRESS TRAIN...
...A GREAT LEAP CARRIES JOR-L HUNDREDS OF YARDS INTO THE AIR TO A BALCONY NEAR THE TOP OF HIS HOME
JOR-L! YOU'VE COME!
AS QUICKLY AS I COULD! LORA, MY BELOVED! WHERE IS HE -- OUR NEWBORN SON?
JOR-L, I'M AFRAID OUR NEWBORN SON, KAL-L, IS RATHER A ROUGHNECK! HE GAVE THE DOCTOR A DISCOLORED EYE, AND I'VE HAD DIFFICULTY IN PREVENTING HIS LEAPING FROM MY ARMS!
JUST LIKE YOUR DAD!
ARE YOU HAPPY, DEAR?
MORE THAN I CAN EVER--
SUDDENLY, THE ROOM BEGINS TO QUIVER! FIRST SLOWLY.... THEN WITH INCREASING VIOLENCE...
JOR-L! W-WHAT--?
AN EARTH-QUAKE!
CLUTCHED IN THE TREMORS' MERCILESS FURY, JOR-L'S HOME COMMENCES TO TOPPLE BEFORE THE TERRIFIC STRAIN!

ON THE WAY TO JOR-L'S OTHER RESIDENCE . .

BUT YOU HAVEN'T ANSWERED ME.-- WHY ARE WE EXPERIENCING SO MANY EARTHQUAKES, LATELY?

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I INTEND TO FIND OUT!

UPON REACHING THEIR DESTINATION, JOR-L HURRIES INTO HIS LABORATORY AND BECOMES IMMERSED IN HIS CALCULATIONS

HOURS PASS . . . THEN DAYS .

PLEASE TAKE THIS FOOD!

I TOLD YOU I WAS NOT TO BE DISTURBED!

AND THEN, ON THE FIFTH DAY, JOR-L LEARNS THE TERRIBLE TRUTH . . .

NO! I MUST BE WRONG-- I MUST!

MONTH FOLLOWS MONTH IN FEVERISH ACTIVITY AS JOR-L PITS HIS MIGHTY BRAIN AGAINST THE NUMEROUS OBSTACLES TO INTERPLANETARY TRAVEL. THEN --

I'VE FINISHED IT, LORA! THE MODEL SPACE-FLIER . . . IT'S READY FOR THE TRIAL JOURNEY!

THAT'S GRAND!

AS YOU SEE, IT'S REALLY NOTHING BUT A MERE TOY. BUT SHOULD ITS AUTOMATICALLY GUIDED FLIGHT TO EARTH PROVE SUCCESSFUL, I'LL COMMENCE TO CONSTRUCT A GIANT SPACE SHIP AT ONCE!

THE PLANET EARTH?

YES. TELESCOPIC OBSERVATION HAS CONVINCED ME THAT EARTH IS THE ONLY NEARBY PLANET CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING LIFE. -- NOW FOR THE DEMONSTRATION!

JOR-L REACHES FOR THE SWITCH WHICH WILL LAUNCH THE MODEL SPACE-SHIP -UPON ITS MOMENTOUS FLIGHT ACROSS SPACE TO EARTH!

AS JOR-L IS ABOUT TO TOUCH THE SWITCH'S HANDLE, HE IS FLUNG OFF-BALANCE BY A SUDDEN LURCHING OF THE ROOF . . . .

EARTHQUAKE!

LOOK --THE GROUND -- HEAVING -- PARTING -- FLAMING --

THE END HAS COME SOONER THAN I EXPECTED!

NOT A SECOND TO LOSE! THE MODEL-FLIER WILL HOLD ONE OF US!

IF ONLY ONE CAN ESCAPE, THEN IT MUST BE OUR CHILD!

UP -- UP FROM JOR-L'S LABORATORY STREAKS THE ROCKET-SHIP BEARING KAL-L FROM CERTAIN DESTRUCTION

AN INSTANT AFTER THEIR GLORIOUS, SELF-SACRIFICING GESTURE, JOR-L AND LORA PERISH IN THE EARTH QUAKE'S AWFUL GRIP!

AND IN STILL ANOTHER INSTANT, THE TREMENDOUS PLANET OF KRYPTON EXPLODES INTO A MILLION FRAGMENTS!

ROCKED BY THE EXPLOSION, BUT ESCAPING ANNIHILATION, THE LITTLE ROCKET-VESSEL CONTINUES ON ITS WAY TO EARTH . . . ITS CARGO, THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF A ONCE MIGHTY CIVILIZATION!

PERIL AFTER PERIL IS NARROWLY AVOIDED BY THE ROCKETING SPACE-FLIER! -- A GREAT JAGGED METEOR . . .

. . . THE GRAVITY OF A GIANT SUN ALMOST DRAWS THE VESSEL TO A MOLTEN DEATH . . . !

SAFETY APPEARS TO HAVE AT LAST BEEN REACHED, WHEN IT FINALLY STREAKS DOWN INTO EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE . . .

BUT DUE TO FRICTION WITH THE AIR, THE SHIP TAKES FIRE UPON LANDING -- HUNGRY FLAMES CREEP GREEDILY TOWARD THE TINY SLEEPING PASSENGER . . . "

THE SLEEPING BABE IS RESCUED FROM THE BURNING SPACE SHIP BY A PASSING MOTORIST AND TURNED OVER TO AN ORPHAN ASYLUM . . .

GOOD HEAVENS! IT'S A CHILD

ATTENDANTS, UNAWARE THE CHILD'S PHYSICAL STRUCTURE IS MILLIONS OF YEARS ADVANCED OF THEIR OWN, ARE ASTOUNDED AT HIS FEATS OF STRENGTH!

WHEN MATURITY WAS REACHED, CLARK KENT DISCOVERED HE COULD EASILY LEAP 1/8 th OF A MILE . . . HURDLE A TWENTY STORY BUILDING . . . RAISE TREMENDOUS WEIGHTS . . . RUN FASTER THAN AN EXPRESS TRAIN . . . AND THAT NOTHING LESS THAN A BURSTING SHELL COULD PENETRATE HIS SKIN!

EARLY, CLARK DECIDED HE MUST TURN HIS TITANIC STRENGTH INTO CHANNELS THAT WOULD BENEFIT MANKIND

AND SO WAS CREATED

SUPERMAN!

CHAMPION OF THE OPPRESSED! THE PHYSICAL MARVEL WHO HAD SWORN TO DEVOTE HIS EXISTENCE TO HELPING THOSE IN NEED! 12

This sequence from 1940 is interesting because it includes (A) a character who doesn't know who Superman is: (B) a policeman who mistakes Superman for a bird (just like the radio introduction), and (C) Lois warning Superman that somebody is firing a gun at him, all of which gives some idea of the newness of the character at that time.

There also is a marked change in the drawing style and even though Siegel and Shuster's names are on the strip, it seems certain that by this time the Man of Tomorrow was either being drawn by somebody else or in the process of being handed over.

SUPERMAN — A Case of Necessity — By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster

METROPOLIS IS THE SCENE OF A SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS ACCIDENTS TO PUBLIC UTILITY PLANTS. WHILE INVESTIGATING ONE OF THE DISASTERS, SUPERMAN DISCOVERS THE SOURCE OF THE TROUBLE AT THE CITY'S WATER PUMPING PLANT!
SO THE WATER'S POURING OUT INSTEAD OF INTO THE INTAKE PIPES! DON'T TRY TO TELL ME THAT COULD BE ACCIDENTAL!
THAT MIRACULOUSLY STRONG MAN-UNDERWATER! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO GET AWAY.
IT LOOKS LIKE MY NEW ACQUAINTANCE DOESN'T CARE MUCH FOR MY COMPANY!
ULP! -YOU!
.THAT'S RIGHT- ME ! I'M NOT PARTICULARLY WILD ABOUT HAVING YOU AROUND, BUT I NEED SOMEONE TO GUIDE ME TO THE CHIEF ENGINEER.
523

YOU'LL FIND THE CHIEF ENGINEER IN THERE!
THANKS- I WON'T BE NEEDING YOU ANY LONGER.
WHO-?
NEVER MIND WHO I AM. I'VE COME WITH IMPORTANT NEWS. I KNOW WHY THE RESERVOIR WATER IS SINKING!
I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY ALLOWED A LUNATIC TO BREAK IN- BUT- GET OUT OF HERE! I'M BUSY!
YOU'RE GOING TO LISTEN TO ME WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!
I'LL SHOW YOU I MEAN WHAT I SAY!
524

AS THE HEAVY WRENCH BOUNCES OFF THE MAN OF STEEL'S HEAD WITH A SHARP CLANG....
MY WORD! YOU- DON'T SEEM TO HAVE....
FELT THE BLOW? NOT AT ALL!
BUT I ASSURE YOU THAT YOU'LL FEEL THIS IF YOU DON'T LISTEN TO ME.
I'M LISTENING!
THE ANSWER IS AMAZING BUT SIMPLE. YOUR PUMPS ARE REVERSED.
NONSENSE! I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT THEY'RE FUNCTIONING CORRECTLY!
YOU DO, EH? AND SUPPOSE I PROVE YOU'RE WRONG!
THEN, AND ONLY THEN, WILL I BELIEVE YOU!
525

EXERTING HIS TREMENDOUS STRENGTH, SUPERMAN LIFTS THE PUMPS, OVERHEAD....
-UP-!
!
-AND AROUND! HOW'S THAT?
IT'S- IT'S MIRACULOUS!
WAIT! DON'T GO YET!
I HEAR PEOPLE APPROACHING! AND THAT'S MY CUE TO EXIT!
527.

AS LOIS LANE APPROACHES THE WATER PUMPING STATION WITH JON TERRILL AND SERGEANT CASEY, SHE SIGHTS...
LOOK! THERE GOES....
SUPERMAN!
HE NEVER FAILS TO SHOW UP WHEN MYSTERIOUS SHENANIGANS ARE BEING PULLED!
WHAT HAPPENED?
SUPERMAN JUST CORRECTED THE TROUBLE HERE, BUT LEAVE IT TO YOU TO ARRIVE WHEN IT'S ALL OVER!
HOW DID THOSE PUMPS BECOME REVERSED IN THE FIRST PLACE?
I... I...
SHORTLY AFTER- SUPERMAN REJOINS THE OTHERS, AS CLARK KENT, IN TIME TO SEE THE PIPE HE HAD TORN OUT, REPLACED....
ENOUGH OF YOUR QUESTIONS! I REVERSED THE PUMPS!
GET HIM!
I FAILED! AND SO- I DIE!
STOP HIM, JON!
TOO LATE!
528.

SUPERMAN HAS BALKED THE EFFORTS OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER TO CUT SHORT THE WATER SUPPLY OF THE CITY OF METROPOLIS. EXPOSED, THE TRAITOR LEAPS INTO THE RESERVOIR...

I HAVE FAILED IN MY MISSION— AND SO IT IS BETTER THAT I DIE!

529

RESCUE HIM, JON!

I'LL DO MY BEST!

SECONDS DRAG, WHILE ALL EYES PEER AT THE WATER'S SURFACE. THEN— UP POPS JON WITH HIS BURDEN....

SORRY— HIS NECK IS BROKEN!

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LATER— AS LOIS, JON, AND CLARK STROLL AWAY FROM THE WATER SUPPLY PLANT....

530

YOU WERE WONDERFUL, JON... RISKING YOUR LIFE LIKE THAT!

TOO BAD THE EFFORT WAS WASTED...THE ENGINEER DIED!

LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE FOR A CHANGE. FOOD FOR INSTANCE. I'M HUNGRY!

THAT'S TYPICAL OF YOU! THE CITY THREATENED BY A MYSTERIOUS WAVE OF ACCIDENTS TO UTILITIES, AND ALL YOU CAN THINK ABOUT IS YOUR APPETITE!

BEING NOBLE IS IN JON'S LINE. AS FOR ME, ALL I KNOW IS THAT I'VE GOT A YEN TO CONSUME FOOD, AND I MEAN PLENTY!

LET'S TRY THIS RESTAURANT!

Elite CAFE

HELP! HELP ME!

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

AS THEY ENTER, THEY ARE MET BY THE EXCITED MANAGER....

THE GAS WON'T BURN! AND THE COOK— HE'S LYING UNCONSCIOUS ON THE FLOOR!

?

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AS LOIS BENDS OVER TO SNIFF AT THE GAS JET....

THE GAS WON'T BURN! PERHAPS THERE ISN'T ANY!

(—DOES SHE WANT TO KILL HERSELF?—)

ONE SIDE!

CLARK—!

WHAT'S THE IDEA OF SHOVING HER LIKE THAT!

JUST TRYING TO SAVE THE GIRL'S LIFE! SHE WAS ABOUT TO INHALE DEADLY CYANIDE GAS!

AND JUST HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT WAS CYANIDE GAS?

YOU'D BE SURPRISED AT ALL THE THINGS I KNOW!

(—LOIS OWES HER LIFE TO MY HYPER-ACUTE SENSES!—)

I STILL WONDER HOW YOU KNEW THAT THE GAS JET CONTAINED CYANIDE GAS!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. TRY TO REVIVE THE COOK, AND CLEAR THE ROOM OF GAS. SEE YOU LATER AT THE PLANET!

CONTACT WITH DANGER SEEMS TO HAVE MADE CLARK LOSE HIS APPETITE!

CHANGING TO HIS IDENTITY OF SUPERMAN, CLARK LAUNCHES HIMSELF UP INTO THE SKY...

532

CYANIDE GAS SPREAD THRU THE CITY, EH?

THAT CALLS FOR AN INVESTIGATION HERE AT THE GAS WORKS!

AS SUPERMAN PEERS THRU THE GAS BUILDING'S ROOF WITH X-RAY VISION, HE SIGHTS A STARTLING SCENE....

WHAT—??

WHAT SUPERMAN'S X-RAY VISION ENABLES HIM TO SEE: LOCKED WITHIN A ROOM, UNCONSCIOUS, AT THE MERCY OF CYANIDE GAS— THE GAS WORKS' CREW!

533

I'VE GOT TO ACT FAST!

FRESH AIR ENTERING! THIS OUGHT TO DO THE TRICK!

SMASH!

SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN KNOCKS OUT THE SIDE OF THE WALL....

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DASHING INTO AN ADJOINING ROOM, SUPERMAN DISCOVERS....

TANK AFTER TANK OF CYANIDE GAS PILED AROUND THE ROOM!

534

SWIFTLY, HE SHUTS OFF THE VALVES CONTROLLING THE GAS GOING FROM THE TANKS TO THE CITY MAINS...

I HATE TO THINK HOW MANY LIVES THIS MAY ALREADY HAVE COST!

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AS POLICE ENTER....

SOMETHING JUST SHOT UP INTO THE SKY!

A BIRD?

SUPERMAN!

HIIISH!

AFTER HE HAS SUCCEEDED IN PREVENTING FURTHER CYANIDE GAS FROM BEING RELEASED INTO THE CITY MAINS, **SUPERMAN** ONCE AGAIN DONS HIS CIVILIAN GARMENTS, TRANSFORMING HIMSELF INTO CLARK KENT, REPORTER.

NOW TO HURRY BACK TO THE DAILY PLANET AND SEE HOW LOIS AND JON ARE MAKING OUT!

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WHERE'S LOIS?

GONE HOME. SHE FOUND SHE WAS MORE TIRED THAN SHE REALIZED.

BUT WHEN CLARK REACHES THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE....

ODD! NO ONE ANSWERS!

HOWEVER, WHEN KENT PHONES LOIS' APARTMENT-

ONCE AGAIN REVERTING TO HIS IDENTITY OF **SUPERMAN**, CLARK TRAILS JON TERRILL'S AUTO....

535

SHE MAY BE HOME BUT I'LL FOLLOW TERRILL ANYWAY. I HAVE A HUNCH...

AFTER A SHORT DRIVE, TERRILL LEAVES HIS CAR TO ENTER A DARK BUILDING...

536

TRAILING JON MAY BE A WASTE OF TIME. I THINK I'LL TURN AROUND AND.....

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BUT AT THAT MOMENT- WITHIN THE BUILDING....

LET ME GO, I SAY! LET ME GO!

LOIS' VOICE!

HEARING LOIS CALL FOR HELP, **SUPERMAN** SPRINGS INTO ACTION! DOWN HE LEAPS BEFORE THE BUILDING JON TERRILL HAS ENTERED- THEN WRENCHES THE METAL GRILL APART WITH HIS BARE HANDS...!

537

LOIS— IN THERE!

IT'S—! ONLY ME... SHOWING UP IN THE NICK OF TIME, AS USUAL!

TAKE CARE OF HIM!

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WHEN YOU'RE REALLY READY TO BEGIN SCRAPPING, JUST LET ME KNOW!

LOOK OUT! THEY'RE FIRING AT YOU!

OH THAT? DON'T MIND THEM. LET 'EM HAVE THEIR FUN WHILE THEY CAN!

NOW TO GIVE YOU MY UN- DIVIDED ATTENTION!

RUN FOR IT!

INTO THE METAL ROOM!

OPEN UP, BOSS!

538

YI-II-III!

DOUBLECROSSED- BY THEIR CHIEF!

A SUDDEN CRACKLING—AND LOIS' CAPTORS ARE ELECTROCUTED UPON TOUCHING THE METAL DOOR.....

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RETREAT, **SUPERMAN**, OR YOU SHARE THEIR FATE!

RETREAT? THAT WORD ISN'T IN MY VOCABULARY!

I GUESS HE DOESN'T KNOW FIREWORKS ARE OUT OF SEASON!

AS **SUPERMAN** LEAPS AT THE METAL DOOR, HIS FIGURE IS ENGULFED IN A BLASTING SHOWER OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY....

AND AS HE HURTLES CLEAR THRU THE HEAVY STEEL INTO AN ADJOINING ROOM, A HOODED FIGURE TOSSES .....

A BOMB!

I WARNED YOU NOT TO OPPOSE ME, **MAN OF STEEL!**

THE BOMB EXPLODES UPON THE **MAN OF TOMORROW'S** CHEST, LEAVING HIM UNHARMED!

539

MY, BUT YOU PLAY ROUGH!

YE-EEE! HELP ME!

I'LL TRY MY BEST!

BUT THE GREAT FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION FLINGS THE BOMB-WIELDER OUT THRU A WINDOW!

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BUT BEFORE THE **MAN OF STEEL** CAN CATCH THE PLUMMETING FIGURE...

TOO LATE! -HE'S STRUCK GROUND!

540

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TERRILL— JON TERRILL!

SUPERMAN REMOVES THE STILL FIGURE'S HOOD TO DISCOVER....

SPRINGING BACK TO THE ROOM OVERHEAD, **SUPERMAN** LEARNS....

THE OTHER FIGURES— **DUMMIES...!**

THIS MAN—ALSO A CAPTIVE—IS THE REAL JON TERRILL! THE MAN WHO REPORTED TO THE PLANET HAD KIDNAPPED HIM AND STOLEN HIS CREDENTIALS!

THE FELLOW WHO IMPERSONATED ME WAS A DANGEROUS MANIAC. BY WRECKING UTILITIES HE HOPED THE SICK AND WEAK WOULD DIE, MAKING CIVILIZATION RETURN TO A SIMPLER, HARDIER WAY OF LIVING!

AND THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE "ACCIDENTS" WAS IN MY EMPLOY! **INCREDIBLE!**

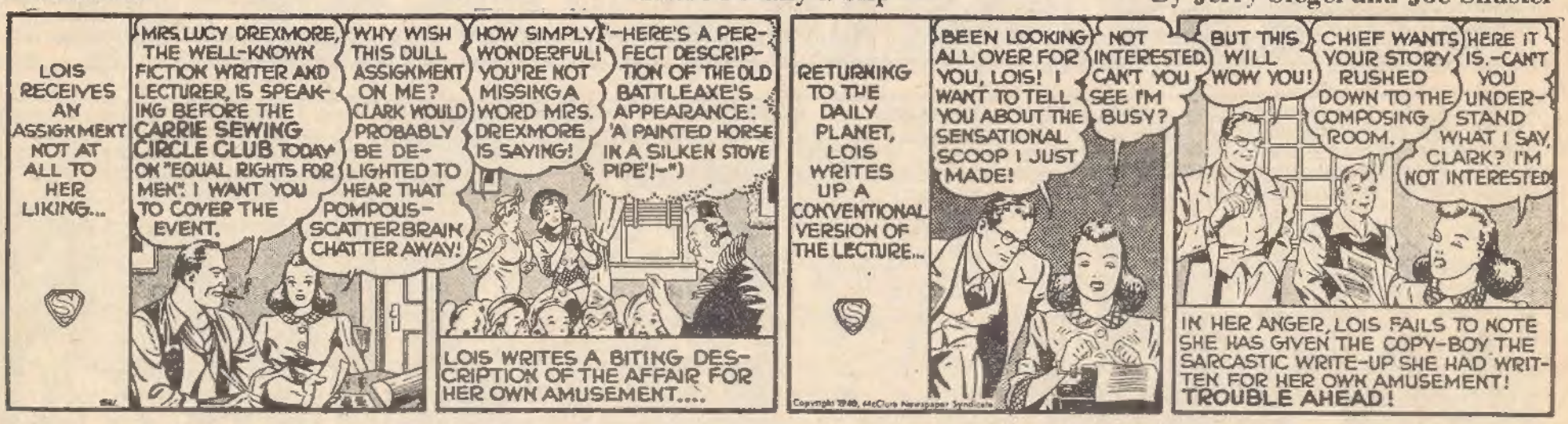
HE CAME VERY CLOSE TO ACHIEVING HIS SINISTER PURPOSE!

BUT THANKS TO THE OPPOSITION OF **SUPERMAN**, HE FAILED!

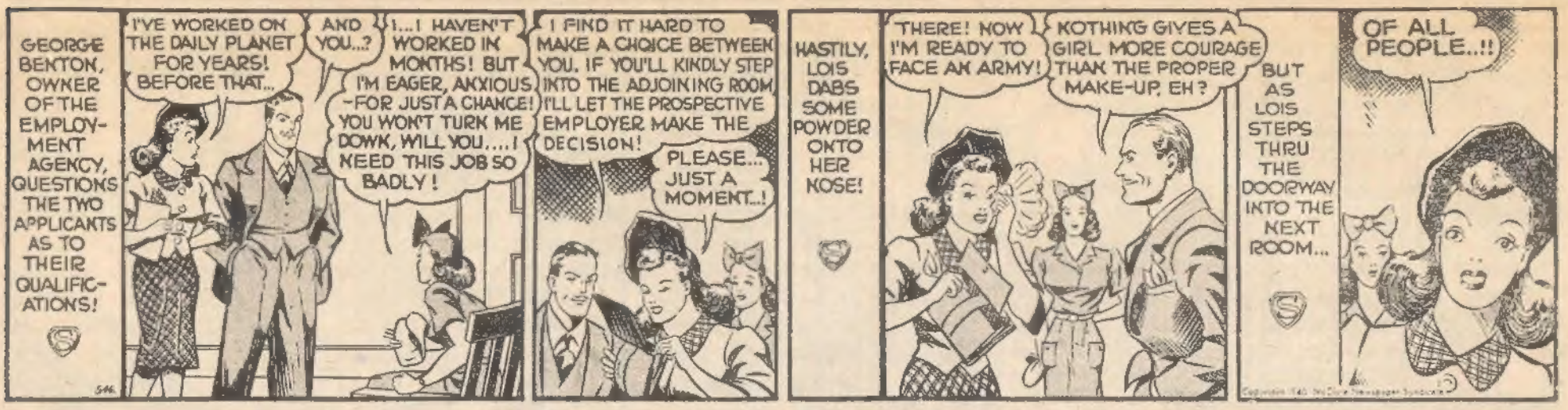
LATER— AT THE DAILY PLANET....

In this 1940 sequence, there is an even more marked change in the drawing style, somewhat for the worse, even though the strip is still interesting. Superman's arch-enemy Luthor makes a brief appearance and then inexplicably disappears. On page 14, there is a sequence which symbolized, and probably still symbolizes, the wish-dream of every pint-sized "victim" -- having Superman's powers or direct help, not against criminals or spies, but in putting to flight the sort of everyday people who constantly make your life miserable.

SUPERMAN **There's Many a Slip—** **By Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster**


LOIS RECEIVES AN ASSIGNMENT NOT AT ALL TO HER LIKING...
MRS. LUCY DREXMORE, THE WELL-KNOWN FICTION WRITER AND LECTURER, IS SPEAKING BEFORE THE CARRIE SEWING CIRCLE CLUB TODAY ON "EQUAL RIGHTS FOR MEN". I WANT YOU TO COVER THE EVENT.
WHY WISH THIS DULL ASSIGNMENT ON ME? CLARK WOULD PROBABLY BE DELIGHTED TO HEAR THAT POMPOUS-SCATTERBRAIN CHATTER AWAY!
HOW SIMPLY WONDERFUL! YOU'RE NOT MISSING A WORD MRS. DREXMORE IS SAYING!
"—HERE'S A PERFECT DESCRIPTION OF THE OLD BATTLEAXE'S APPEARANCE: 'A PAINTED HORSE IN A SILKEN STOVE PIPE'!—")
LOIS WRITES A BITING DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFAIR FOR HER OWN AMUSEMENT....
RETURNING TO THE DAILY PLANET, LOIS WRITES UP A CONVENTIONAL VERSION OF THE LECTURE...
BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU, LOIS! I WANT TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE SENSATIONAL SCOOP I JUST MADE!
NOT INTERESTED, CAN'T YOU SEE I'M BUSY?
BUT THIS WILL WOW YOU!
CHIEF WANTS YOUR STORY RUSHED DOWN TO THE COMPOSING ROOM.
HERE IT IS.—CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I SAY, CLARK? I'M NOT INTERESTED.
IN HER ANGER, LOIS FAILS TO NOTE SHE HAS GIVEN THE COPY-BOY THE SARCASTIC WRITE-UP SHE HAD WRITTEN FOR HER OWN AMUSEMENT! TROUBLE AHEAD!

DURING THE ENSUING DAYS, LOIS HAUNTS THE OFFICES OF RIVAL NEWSPAPERS IN SEARCH OF A POSITION, BUT IN VAIN...
PLEASE, GORDON! YOU KNOW I'M THE BEST NEWSPAPER WOMAN IN TOWN! GIVE ME A BREAK!
EX-NEWSPAPER WOMAN, YOU MEAN! AFTER THAT AWFUL BONER YOU PULLED, NO NEWSPAPER IN THIS TOWN WOULD TOUCH YOU WITH A TEN FOOT POLE!
WEARY, DISCOURAGED, LOIS' ONLY CONSOLATION AFTER LONG HOURS OF JOB SEEKING IS THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF HER MOTHER....
IT'S NO USE, MOM! NONE OF THE NEWSPAPERS WILL CONSIDER ME-AND-NEWSPAPER WORK IS MY LIFE WORK—MY VERY EXISTENCE!
THERE NOW, LOIS! YOU WON'T LET A LITTLE THING LIKE BEING OUT OF WORK GET YOU DOWN, WILL YOU? YOU'LL GET SOMETHING YET—I'M SURE OF IT!
ONE THING YOU'VE GOT TO FACE! YOU MUST TRY FOR SOME OTHER KIND OF POSITION. NOW HERE, IN THE CLASSIFIED ADS, I'VE NOTICED THAT THE BENTON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY ASKS FOR A SOCIAL SECRETARY. WHO KNOWS, MY DEAR, THAT MAY BE JUST THE THING FOR YOU!
LET ME SEE THAT AD!
IN THE MORNING, LOIS REPORTS TO THE BENTON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY. SEATED BESIDE HER IS A NERVOUS APPLICANT FOR THE SAME POSITION, SADIE GRANVILLE...
I TELL YOU—I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR A JOB FOR MONTHS! I CAN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER! IF I DON'T GET THIS JOB, I'LL—I'LL DO SOMETHING DESPERATE...!
YOU'RE OVERWROUGHT! YOU MUSTN'T LOSE YOUR COURAGE!
("—JOB-SEEKING HAS REDUCED THIS POOR GIRL TO PRACTICALLY A PSYCHOPATHIC CASE—
MR. BENTON WILL INTERVIEW BOTH OF YOU, NOW.


GEORGE BENTON, OWNER OF THE EMPLOYMENT AGENCY, QUESTIONS THE TWO APPLICANTS AS TO THEIR QUALIFICATIONS!
I'VE WORKED ON THE DAILY PLANET FOR YEARS! BEFORE THAT...
AND YOU...?
I...I HAVEN'T WORKED IN MONTHS! BUT I'M EAGER, ANXIOUS—FOR JUST A CHANCE! YOU WON'T TURN ME DOWN, WILL YOU....I NEED THIS JOB SO BADLY!
I FIND IT HARD TO MAKE A CHOICE BETWEEN YOU. IF YOU'LL KINDLY STEP INTO THE ADJOINING ROOM, I'LL LET THE PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER MAKE THE DECISION!
PLEASE... JUST A MOMENT...!
HASTILY, LOIS DABS SOME POWDER ONTO HER NOSE!
THERE! NOW I'M READY TO FACE AN ARMY!
NOTHING GIVES A GIRL MORE COURAGE THAN THE PROPER MAKE-UP, EH?
BUT AS LOIS STEPS THRU THE DOORWAY INTO THE NEXT ROOM...
OF ALL PEOPLE..!!

DISCHARGED FROM THE DAILY PLANET BECAUSE A SARCASTIC STORY SHE HAD WRITTEN OF MRS. LUCY DREXMORE, PROMINENT WRITER AND LECTURER, WAS PRINTED THRU AN ERROR, LOIS SEEKS A POSITION AS SOCIAL SECRETARY. GEORGE BENTON, OF THE BENTON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY, BRINGS LOIS AND SADIE GRANVILLE, ANOTHER APPLICANT, INTO THE PRESENCE OF THE PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER.
MRS. DREXMORE! OH-OH! HERE'S WHERE I EXIT!
NO—WAIT!
I'M NOT THE OGRE YOU SEEM TO THINK I AM. I HAD YOU DISCHARGED ONLY TO SAVE MY FACE. BUT I'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU WORK FOR ME AND—ER—ADVISE ME WHAT WEARING APPAREL BETTER SUITS ME!
THANK YOU! I CERTAINLY CAN USE THE JOB!
AFTER MRS. DREXMORE DEPARTS, LOIS TURNS AND NOTES TO HER HORROR....
I TOLD YOU I'D DO SOMETHING DESPERATE IF I DIDN'T GET THE JOB! I'LL KILL US ALL!
PUT THAT GUN DOWN, YOU LITTLE FOOL!
HELP! SHE'S LOST HER MIND!
AS A DISAPPOINTED JOB-SEEKER PULLS A GUN, LOIS LEAPS AT HER IN SELF-PROTECTION...
DROP THAT GUN!
LET GO! I'LL KILL EV....
SUDDENLY—THE GUN IS FIRED! SADIE DROPS LIMPLY! LOIS LOOKS DOWN IN HORROR....
SHE PULLED THE TRIGGER! I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
A SCANDAL! IT'LL RUIN MY BUSINESS!
BUT THE GIRL...!
NEVER MIND HER! TAKE THAT JOB WITH MRS. DREXMORE. I'LL SEE THAT THIS GIRL RECEIVES ADEQUATE MEDICAL ATTENTION...AND HOLDS HER TONGUE!
AND SO LOIS BEGINS HER SECRETARIAL DUTIES IN MRS. DREXMORE'S PALATIAL HOME....
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MISS LANE? YOU SEEM WORRIED. DOESN'T THIS POSITION PLEASE YOU?
PLEASE CONTINUE TO DICTATE. I—I'M ALL RIGHT.
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO SADIE GRANVILLE? I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM BENTON IN DAYS!

ONE EVENING, CLARK CALLS UPON LOIS-AND IS IMMENSELY SURPRISED AT THE PLEASANT RECEPTION HE RECEIVES...

REALLY, CLARK! MRS. DREXMORE IS A WONDERFUL PERSON TO WORK FOR, BUT I MUST ADMIT THAT I DO MISS THE SWELL TIMES WE HAD AT THE PLANET!

I-ER-I MEAN, WE'LL MISS YOU TOO! (-I WON'T GIVE AWAY THE NEWS THAT HER OLD JOB AWAITS HER ANY TIME SHE WANTS IT! LET HER HAVE THE PLEASURE OF FINDING THAT OUT FOR HERSELF.-)

YOU'RE REALLY QUITE AN ATTRACTIVE PERSON, CLARK! I'M AFRAID THAT IN THE HEAT OF OUR FORMER COMPETITION I OVERLOOKED YOUR BETTER QUALITIES....

ER-THERE'S SOMEONE AT THE DOOR!

BENTON!

YOU-DO YOU MIND LEAVING US ALONE?

BUT-!

YOU'D BETTER GO, CLARK. IT'S-IT'S BETTER THAT YOU DO!

VERY WELL. IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT!

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OUTSIDE LOIS' DOOR, CLARK PAUSES MOMENTARILY, MENTALLY DEBATING WHETHER OR NOT TO USE HIS SUPER-HEARING....

LOIS IS WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING. PERHAPS....

BUT THEN, HE WALKS OFF....

I MUST CURB THESE CURIOUS IMPULSES OF MINE. IN MY ANXIETY TO HELP PEOPLE, SOMETIMES I FORGET IT'S POOR MANNERS TO EAVESDROP UPON ANYONE'S PERSONAL AFFAIRS.

FROM THE TONE OF THE ENSUING CONVERSATION BETWEEN LOIS AND BENTON IT APPEARS IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BEST HAD CLARK CONTINUED HIS EAVESDROPPING!

I'VE CALLED YOUR OFFICE FOR DAYS, BUT WAS ALWAYS INFORMED YOU WEREN'T IN. HOW-HOW'S SADIE? HAS SHE COMPLETELY RECOVERED YET?

SADIE-DIED-! AND YOU-LOIS LANE-ARE HER MURDERER!

THAT'S RIDICULOUS! I WAS TRYING TO GET THE GUN AWAY FROM HER-AND IT WENT OFF!

WHO'LL BELIEVE THAT? OF COURSE, IF YOU SEE FIT TO TELL ME THE COMBINATION OF MRS. DREXMORE'S SAFE I MIGHT TESTIFY IN YOUR BEHALF!

WHY-WHY, THIS IS BLACKMAIL!

AN UNPLEASANT WORD, MY DEAR! STILL-

YOU HAVE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO GET ME THE COMBINATION OF THE OLD LADY'S SAFE! EITHER DELIVER-OR I DELIVER YOU TO THE POLICE!

!

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FREE TIME ON HIS HANDS... CLARK KENT REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS, TRANSFORMING HIMSELF INTO SUPERMAN...

I THINK I'LL HOP OVER TO THE DREXMORE HOME AND SEE HOW LOIS IS MAKING OUT IN HER NEW POSITION

MOMENTS LATER.... DOWN OUT OF THE CLOUDY SKY PLUMMETS A COLORFUL FIGURE....

LOIS-BELOW-WITH MRS. DREXMORE!

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DRAT MY MEMORY! I NEVER CAN RECALL THE COMBINATION TO THE SAFE WITHOUT FIRST CONSULTING THIS SLIP OF PAPER!

ISN'T IT-ER-RATHER DANGEROUS TO LEAVE THE COMBINATION OF YOUR SAFE LYING ABOUT LIKE THAT?

DANGEROUS? VERY FEW PEOPLE ARE AWARE THAT I KEEP SUCH VALUABLE JEWELS IN MY HOME!

(-FEW, YES! BUT ENOUGH TO MENACE YOUR POSSESSION OF THEM!-)

AFTER MRS. DREXMORE LEAVES THE ROOM, LOIS SITS STARING AT THE DESK DRAWER AS THO' HYPNOTIZED....

SHALL I? OR...??

OBSERVING LOIS FROM THE ROOF ABOVE WITH THE AID OF HIS X-RAY VISION, SUPERMAN IS PUZZLED BY HER STRANGE BEHAVIOR...

WHAT IS SHE UP TO?

SUPERMAN RECEIVES HIS REPLY NEXT MOMENT, AS LOIS HASTILY APPROACHES THE DESK, SWIFTLY OPENS THE DRAWER, THEN JOTS DOWN THE COMBINATION OF MRS. DREXMORE'S SAFE UPON HER PAD....

QUICKLY-BEFORE SHE RETURNS...!

AS LOIS DRIVES OFF FROM THE MANSION, SUPERMAN FOLLOWS HIGH IN THE SKY....

THIS RATES LOOKING INTO!

HIRED BY MRS. DREXMORE, LOIS IS TOLD BY BENTON THAT SADIE DIED OF A WOUND RECEIVED WHEN LOIS TRIED TO TAKE A GUN AWAY FROM HER. GEORGE BENTON COMMANDS LOIS TO BRING HIM THE COMBINATION OF MRS. DREXMORE'S SAFE, OR HE WILL TURN HER OVER TO THE POLICE. OBSERVING LOIS' ACTIONS, SUPERMAN FOLLOWS..

SHE'S ENTERED THE BENTON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY! TELESCOPIC VISION, X-RAY EYESIGHT, AND SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING OUGHT TO INFORM ME WHAT LOIS IS UP TO!

YOU WANTED THE SAFE COMBINATION. HERE IT IS!

I KNEW YOU'D GET SMART!

LOIS-INVOLVED IN A SHADY TRANSACTION-! IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE!

AS LOIS DEPARTS, SUPERMAN WAVERS BETWEEN FOLLOWING HER AND CONTINUING HIS SURVEILLANCE OF BENTON, HE DECIDES....

BENTON HOLDS THE EXPLANATION TO THIS PUZZLE, AND SO I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON HIM!

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THE MAN OF TOMORROW OBSERVES A STRANGE PROCESSION OF THIEVES AND MURDERERS FILE INTO BENTON'S OFFICE....

HERE ARE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS! FOLLOW THEM TO THE LETTER!

BENTON ANSWERS THE 'PHONE....

YES-MASTER!

COME-AT ONCE!

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WHEN HIS HIRELINGS HAVE DEPARTED, BENTON PRESSES A BUTTON, AND A PORTION OF THE WALL OPENS....

NOW TO PUT THESE SHEETS BACK INTO THE SECRET FILES! CLEVER DEVICE-NO ONE WILL EVER LOCATE THESE FILES, THE MASTER THINKS OF EVERYTHING!

AS BENTON LEAVES....

EVERYTHING? THIS MYSTERIOUS "MASTER" SEEMS TO HAVE FAILED TO TAKE ME INTO HIS CALCULATIONS!

DOWN THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING GOES THE **MAN OF STEEL**...

I SEEM TO HAVE STUMBLED UPON SOMETHING REALLY WORTHY OF MY ATTENTION!

THE ANSWER TO BENTON'S MYSTERIOUS ACTIONS IS HIDDEN BEHIND THAT WALL!

PERHAPS I SHOULD SAY "OPEN SESAME"--OR SOME SUCH APPROPRIATE REMARK!

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AS **SUPERMAN** REGARDS BENTON'S RECORDS, HE GASPS AT THE IMMENSITY OF THE MAN'S CRIMINAL PLANS....

WHEW! HE CERTAINLY INTENDS TO DO THINGS ON A BIG SCALE!

A DOZEN CRIMES PLANNED FOR THE FINANCIAL CENTER OF METROPOLIS! BUT HOW CAN HE HOPE TO OVERCOME THE PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE BANKS IN THAT DISTRICT?

SPECIFICATION SHEET NO. 351 SUPPLIES THE ANSWER...!

SPECIFICATION #351

WANTED: 4 MEN TO CHAIN AND LOCK DOORS.
5 MEN EXPERIENCED IN SPREADING AND IGNITING GASOLINE.
10 MEN TO ACT AS LOOKOUTS AND PREVENT INTERFERENCE OF POLICE OR OTHERS.

JOB: TO SET AFIRE METROPOLIS HOSPITAL IN ORDER TO DRAW ALL POLICE FROM THEIR USUAL STATIONS.

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AND UPON STILL ANOTHER SHEET, THE **MAN OF TOMORROW** DISCOVERS..

A DUPLICATE OF INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED TO LOIS! SHE'S TO PLACE A SLEEPING POTION IN THE COFFEE SERVED TO MEMBERS OF THE DREXMORE HOUSEHOLD, THEN OPEN A DOOR AND PERMIT THE SAFE CRACKER AND HIS ASSISTANT TO ENTER!

SIRENS FROM THE STREET BELOW! THE WAVE OF CRIME MAY HAVE ALREADY BEGUN!

SIRENS--FIRE TRUCKS..! I'VE GOT TO HURRY!

ABOVE THE CITY HURTLES **SUPERMAN** TOWARD HIS DESTINATION....

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE ANYONE WOULD BE HEARTLESS ENOUGH TO USE SICK, HELPLESS PERSONS AS PAWNS IN HIS PLANS FOR A MAJOR CRIME!

BUT IT'S TRUE ENOUGH! THE METROPOLIS HOSPITAL IS THE SCENE OF A RAGING FIRE!

TWO FIRE TRUCKS.... ABOUT TO COLLIDE!

GLANCING DOWN, THE **MAN OF STEEL** SEES ...

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TOWARD THE DISTANT STREET BELOW PLUMMETS **SUPERMAN**..

I'VE GOT TO PREVENT THAT COLLISION!

AS HE LANDS BETWEEN THE TWO FIRE TRUCKS, HE THRUSTS SWIFTLY AT THEM BOTH....

KEEP APART!

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DUE TO THE **MAN OF TOMORROW'S** SURGE OF ASTOUNDING STRENGTH, A CRASH IS AVERTED!

THAT DOES IT!

THEN--OK TOWARD METROPOLIS HOSPITAL RACES **SUPERMAN**, EASILY STREAKING PAST SPEEDING AUTOS....

SUPERMAN HAS DISCOVERED THAT GEORGE BENTON, HEAD OF THE BENTON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY, IS HAVING HIS MEN SET FIRE TO THE METROPOLIS HOSPITAL, IN ORDER TO DISTRACT ATTENTION FROM THE PILLAGING OF THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT, AS THE **MAN OF STEEL** STREAKS TOWARD THE HOSPITAL, BENTON'S HIRELINGS CHAIN AND LOCK ITS ENTRANCE WHILE THEY BATTLE WITH THE POLICE!

GET THOSE MEN! THEY'RE BARRICADING THE HOSPITAL ENTRANCE!

BEDLAM REIGNS WITHIN THE HOSPITAL....

LET US OUT!

THE FUMES! I'M CHOKING!

HELP!

NOW I KNOW HOW A TARGET FEELS!

DOWN STREAKS **SUPERMAN** BETWEEN THE BATTLING FORCES, RECEIVING THE CONCENTRATED FIRE OF BOTH....

SUPERMAN FLINGS THE FRANTICALLY FIRING GANGSTERS ASIDE AS THO THEY ARE PUPPETS...

ONE SIDE! I'LL ATTEND TO YOU LATER!

LEAPING TO THE HOSPITAL'S ENTRANCE, HE EASILY SNAPS THE HEAVY CHAINS.....

THIS IS SIMPLE!--BUT THE HEAVY BRONZE DOORS HAVE BEEN WELDED TOGETHER IN A SOLID MASS!

NEVERTHELESS--DOWN THEY GO!

THANK HEAVEN!

WE COULDN'T HAVE STOOD IT MUCH LONGER!

WILL THIS ENABLE EVERYONE TO ESCAPE?

NO--IN WARD D...PATIENTS WHO CAN'T BE REMOVED FROM THEIR BEDS WITHOUT FATAL RESULTS!

INTO THE HOSPITAL STREAKS **SUPERMAN**, SKY-ROCKETING UP THE LONG, WINDING STAIRWAY...

BED-RIDDEN PATIENTS TRAPPED IN WARD D!

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SUPERMAN ENTERS THE WARD TO DISCOVER....

HELP!

HELP!

TRY TO BE CALM!

(—I CAN'T LEAVE THEM TO THE MERCY OF THE FLAMES. YET—THEY CAN'T BE MOVED FROM THEIR BEDS...)

SUPERMAN INTERCEPTS BENTON'S HIRE-LINGS AT THE HOSPITAL AND SAVES THE EN-DANGERED PATIENTS. ON THE STREET AGAIN, HE SIGHTS ANOTHER GROUP OF GANGSTERS ESCAPING FROM A BANK...

THEY'RE ATTEMPTING TO MAKE A GETAWAY WITH THEIR LOOT!

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A TREMENDOUS LEAP CARRIES **SUPERMAN** OVER THE SPEEDING CAR. DROPPING BEFORE THE AUTO, HE SEIZES ITS BUMPER....

WHOA!

YOU'RE TAKING A DETOUR....WHETHER YOU WANT TO OR NOT!

THERE! THAT OUGHT TO HOLD YOU UNTIL THE POLICE DECIDE TO RELEASE YOU.... I'M AFRAID, THO, THAT THEY'LL NEED THE SERVICES OF A BLOWTORCH!

IN A NEARBY BANK, BENTON'S HENCHMEN BLOW OPEN IT'S VAULT....

BOOM!

SUPERMAN, HEARING THE EXPLOS-ION, STREAKS TOWARD THE BANK....

SOUNDS LIKE BENTON'S LADS IN ACTION!

...IN A LEAP THAT CARRIES HIM THRU THE WALL INTO THE VERY PRESENCE OF THE ASTONISHED BANDITS!

MIND IF I BUTT IN?

WHAT-!!

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SUPERMAN ADVANCES IN THE FACE OF A HAIL OF BULLETS...

IT'S SUPERMAN!!

THE BULLETS..!

YOU SUSPECT MY IDENTITY, EH?

...B-BOUNCIN' OFF!

WELL, HERE'S DEFINITE PROOF!

YII-I!!!!!

GRASPING THE SAFE'S BLASTED FRONT, **SUPERMAN** TWISTS IT TOGETHER....

THERE! THAT OUGHT TO HOLD YOU!

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HELP!

LET US OUT!

THE POLICE WILL RELEASE YOU—AND LEAD YOU TO ANOTHER STEEL CELL!

INSTINCT CAUSES **SUPERMAN** TO TRAIN HIS TELESCOPIC X-RAY VISION ON THE DISTANT DREXMORE MANSION...

LOIS...CARRYING OUT BENTON'S ORDERS!

TOWARD THE MANSION LEAPS **SUPERMAN** AT TOP SPEED....

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I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW LOIS COULD HAVE BECOME INVOLVED IN GEORGE BENTON'S SCHEMES! HERE'S WHERE I FIND OUT!

WHAT **SUPERMAN** HAD SIGHTED...

OKAY FER US TO ENTER NOW?

YES—AS YOU CAN SEE, I'VE DRUGGED EVERYONE!

NICE WORK, LANE! LEAD US TO THE WALL-SAFE!

WHAT-!?! TH' COMBINATION DON'T WORK!

IF YOU'VE DOUBLE-CROSSED US....

KEEP YOUR HANDS RAISED! I GAVE BENTON A FALSE COMBINATION WITH THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF CATCHING YOU RED-HANDED!

GIVE ME THAT!

DON'T!

THOUGHT YOU'D DOUBLE-CROSS US, EH?

WE'VE A WAY OF DEALING WITH TRAITORS LIKE YOU!

NO! DON'T SHOOT!

DISREGARDING LOIS' PLEAS, THE THUG FIRES! BUT AT THAT INSTANT, **SUPERMAN** CRASHES IN THRU THE WALL....

I THINK I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU MIGHTY SORRY YOU TOOK UP CRIME AS A PROFESSION!

WHO-??

BANG!

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AS **SUPERMAN** STREAKS FORWARD IN AN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT THE BULLET FROM KILLING LOIS, THE METAL PELLET CAREENS OFF HIS PALM.

SLIPPERY LITTLE THING!

...AND STRIKES LOIS' FOREHEAD! DOWN SHE GOES...!

OH-HHH!

LOIS!

LOIS! SPEAK TO ME! — SHE DOESN'T ANSWER!

L-LET'S GET OUTA HERE!

-BEFORE HE TAKES HIS ANGER OUT ON US!!

SHE'S ONLY STUNNED, THANK HEAVEN! BUT THOSE THUGS ARE ESCAPING ... CAN'T LET THEM DO THAT...!

SUPERMAN PURSUES THE CRIMINALS' CAR FROM A VANTAGE POINT HIGH IN THE SKY...

WONDER WHERE THEY'RE HEADED?

SHORTLY AFTER, **SUPERMAN** LEARNS THE PUZZLING ANSWER...

THEY'RE ENTERING THE PUBLIC LIBRARY! STRANGE PLACE FOR TWO HOODLUMS TO FLEE FROM THE SCENE OF THEIR CRIME!

ASTONISHED TO SEE THE TWO FLEEING CRIMINALS ENTER THE PUBLIC LIBRARY, **SUPERMAN** TRAILS THEM ALONG A DESERTED CORRIDOR.

ANYONE LOOKING?

NO ONE GO AHEAD!

AS THE SAFECRACKER PRESSES A CONCEALED BUTTON, A PORTION OF THE WALL SLIDES ASIDE, REVEALING A STEEP STAIRWAY

THEY'RE DESCENDING TO A SECRET ROOM BENEATH THE BASEMENT OF THE BUILDING!

CLOSING THE PANEL BEHIND THEM, THE TWO DESCEND TO THE ROOM BELOW WHERE THEY REPORT TO THE ENRAGED BENTON....

THE GIRL GAVE US A FALSE COMBINATION!

A GUY WITH AMAZING STRENGTH SHOWED UP AND WE HAD TO RUN FOR OUR LIVES!

SUPERMAN AGAIN! HE'S INTERFERED LONG ENOUGH! THE "MASTER" WILL KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH HIM!

SUPERMAN TRAILS TWO OF BENTON'S HENCHMEN TO A SECRET PANEL LEADING TO A STAIRWAY IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE ROOM BELOW GEORGE BENTON SENDS A TELETYPE REPORT OF THE DAY'S FIASCO TO HIS "MASTER"..

AND NOW—I AWAIT HIS INSTRUCTIONS!

ABOVE AVAILING HIMSELF OF HIS TELESCOPIC X-RAY VISION, **SUPERMAN** READS THE "MASTERS" REPLY....

WHY, THE COLDBLOODED SCOUNDREL!

HAVE ONE OF OUR AGENTS SLAY SOMEONE AT THE DOCKS SO HOPE EVEN PLACE THE MURDER CHARGE ON LARGE'S HAND - AS FOR YOU BENTON COME TO HEADQUARTERS!

TWO ALTERNATIVES. ONE: PREVENT THE FRAMEUP OF LOIS. TWO: UNCOVER THE LEADER OF THIS MURDEROUS WAVE OF HORROR.—I'M DUTY-BOUND TO CHOOSE THE.... LATTER!

LEAVING THE LIBRARY, BENTON BOARDS A SUBWAY TRAIN....

BUT AS THE TRAIN ROARS OFF INTO THE TUNNEL, **SUPERMAN** RACES IN PURSUIT ...

BENTON IS HEADED FOR THE "MASTER". THEREFORE, I GO WHERE **HE** GOES!

AS THE MAN OF TOMORROW'S FOOT ACCIDENTALLY TOUCHES THE CHARGED THIRD RAIL, THERE IS A SUDDEN BLAZE OF ELECTRICITY!

AND **SUPERMAN'S** FIGURE IS ENVELOPED BY SMOKE!

UNHARMED BY THE ELECTRICAL DISCHARGE, **SUPERMAN** RACES ON...

IF ELECTRICITY DOESN'T BOTHER A BULB, WHY SHOULD IT ANNOY **ME**?

TO PREVENT A RE-OCCURRENCE OF THE INCIDENT, **SUPERMAN** LEAPS ATOP THE SPEEDING SUBWAY TRAIN....

PERHAPS I'LL REMAIN OUT OF MISCHIEF UP HERE!

BUT MORE TROUBLE LOOMS AHEAD AS A LOW GIRDER THREATENS TO BRUSH HIM OFF....

OH-OH! I'M HEADED FOR A **CRASH**!

THE TWO COLLIDE!

I'M AFRAID THAT GIRDER WILL NEVER LOOK THE SAME AGAIN!

BENTON LEAVES THE TRAIN, AT THE NEXT STOP, UNAWARE OF THE **MAN OF STEEL'S** PURSUIT...

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WALKING UP THE RAMP, BENTON ENTERS THE ELEVATOR THAT WILL LIFT HIM UP THRU THE SKY BUILDING....

WE'RE NEAR THE END OF THE TRAIL!

LEAPING IN, **SUPERMAN** FORCES THE STEEL ELEVATOR DOORS ASIDE....

MAKE WAY!

THEN UP THE CABLE HE CLIMBS..

THE ELEVATOR CAR DIRECTLY ABOVE ..I'M TAKING NO CHANCES! BENTON WON'T GET OUT OF MY SIGHT!

SUPERMAN EMERGES AT THE EIGHTEENTH FLOOR IN TIME TO SEE BENTON ENTER A CERTAIN OFFICE...

("- NO NAME ON THE DOOR! SOMEONE DESIRES PRIVACY...AND FOR A GOOD REASON, NO DOUBT!-")

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CAUTIOUSLY STEPPING THRU THE OFFICE DOOR, THE **MAN OF TOMORROW** IS STARTLED TO FIND HIMSELF FACED BY....

ANOTHER DOOR! THIS ONE - CONSTRUCTED OF.... **STEEL!**

NEXT INSTANT, AN EVIL FACE MATERIALIZES UPON THE DOOR!

SO, **SUPERMAN**- OUR PATHS CROSS ONCE AGAIN!

LUTHOR!

LUTHOR- A SINISTER ULTRA-SCIENTIST! THO HIS FANTASTIC INVENTIONS COULD PROVE A BOON TO CIVILIZATION, THE PLOTTING SAVANT PREFERS TO USE THEM AS TERRIBLE WEAPONS IN HIS EFFORTS TO ENSLAVE MANKIND! HE AND **SUPERMAN** HAVE CLASHED ON MANY OCCASIONS. NOW ONCE AGAIN THE TWO CONFRONT EACH OTHER!

YES, SUPERMAN, IT IS!!

SUPERMAN'S RESPONSE IS TO TEAR DOWN THE STEEL BARRIER WITH HIS BARE HANDS!

LUTHOR SHOULD KNOW BY THIS TIME THAT STEEL IS NO OBSTACLE TO ME!

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IT'S **HIM- SUPERMAN!**

DON'T BE FRIGHTENED, BENTON! I'M WELL PREPARED FOR HIM!

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT TO ACCOMPLISH WITH THAT PUNY LITTLE WEAPON?

AS **SUPERMAN** LEAPS, HE IS STRUCK FULL IN THE CHEST BY A BURSTING BOLT!

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THIS!

WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING?

THE ATOMS IN THE AIR - RE-ARRANGING THEMSELVES ABOUT **SUPERMAN'S** FIGURE!

!

RAPIDLY THE MIST HARDENS INTO A CRYSTAL BLOCK! **SUPERMAN** FINDS HE CANNOT FREE HIMSELF OF ITS UNYIELDING GRIP!

AN ATOMIC-SOLIDIFIER! **WHAT MIRACLE OF SCIENCE IS THIS?**

SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT THE CRYSTAL IS STRONGER THAN ANY OBJECT ON EARTH ..AND FOR ONCE, **SUPERMAN HAS MET HIS MATCH!** THE SOLIDIFIER WORKS SO QUICKLY THAT **SUPERMAN** HAD NO TIME TO FLEX HIS MUSCLES - AN ACT NECESSARY IF HE IS TO MAKE USE OF HIS STRENGTH!

LUTHOR ANSWERS THE TELEPHONE

THAT WAS A CALL FROM OUR MEN. THEY'VE ENTERED THE DREXMORE HOME AND ARE ABOUT TO EXECUTE THE FRAME-UP OF LOIS LANE!

GOOD! IT WILL DEMONSTRATE TO THE OTHER MEN WHAT WE DO TO TRAITORS WHO ATTEMPT A DOUBLE-CROSS!

THO **SUPERMAN** IS HELPLESSLY IMPRISONED WITHIN THE CRYSTAL-BLOCK, HE IS STILL IN COMPLETE POSSESSION OF HIS MARVELOUS SUPER-ACUTE HEARING....

("- LOIS - ABOUT TO BE FRAMED FOR MURDER! IF I COULD ONLY GET FREE! **BUT - I - CAN'T!**-")

VERY WELL. FOLLOW OUT YOUR ORDERS. SLAY SOMEONE. THEN PLACE THE MURDER GUN IN THE UNCONSCIOUS LOIS LANE'S HANDS!

WITHIN THE DREXMORE MANSION..

THE "MASTER" SAYS TO GO AHEAD WITH THE JOB!

SH-HH! SOMEONE'S COMING! HIDE!

TWO POLICEMEN, MAKING A ROUTINE PARKING VIOLATION CALL, ENTER THE DREXMORE RESIDENCE, TO FIND THE UNCONSCIOUS FIGURES ON THE FLOOR!

WHAT'S THIS?

THEY MUST HAVE BEEN OVERCOME BY GAS!

("- I'VE GOT IT! I'LL KILL BOTH OF THEM. LET THE GIRL TRY TO ESCAPE **THAT** RAP!-")

SO - **MAN OF STEEL!** THOUGHT YOU WE'RE INVULNERABLE, EH? BUT YOU RECKONED WITHOUT THE SCIENTIFIC MIGHT OF **LUTHOR!** LOIS LANE WHOM YOU SEEM TO DELIGHT IN RESCUING - IS IN TERRIBLE DANGER. BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO TO RESCUE HER? **NOTHING!**

LUTHOR'S TAUNTS DRIVE **SUPERMAN** INTO A RAGE! HE STRAINS MIGHTILY AT THE ENCLOSING CRYSTAL BLOCK...

("- ONE LAST ATTEMPT! I'LL THROW EVERY LAST OUNCE OF ENERGY INTO IT. AND IF I FAIL.... **LOIS IS DOOMED!**-")

BEFORE THE MAN OF TOMORROW'S COLOSSAL SURGE OF STRENGTH, THE BLOCK FLIES INTO A THOUSAND FRAGMENTS!

FREE - **FREE** AT LAST!

WHAT-!?!

YIII-IIII!

NO LONGER IMPRISONED, SUPERMAN SPRINGS TOWARD THE EVIL ULTRA-SCIENTIST...

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR "POWERFUL" DISCOVERY NOW?

I'VE FAILED AGAIN!

BUT AS SUPERMAN'S FINGERS ARE ABOUT TO CLOSE ON HIM...

WHAT-? HE'S DEMATERIALIZED!

FAREWELL, SUPERMAN! YOU'VE TURNED THE TABLES, BUT NEXT TIME....

YOU'RE DECIDEDLY MATERIAL!-STOP STRUGGLING! YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!

DON'T HURT ME!

EEE-EEE!

IF YOU DON'T QUIET DOWN, I'LL REALLY GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO SCREAM ABOUT!

OVER THE CITY AND TOWARD THE DREXMORE MANSION HURTLES SUPERMAN AT BREATH-TAKING SPEED....

STOP! STOP! -THE RUSH OF AIR! I-I CAN HARDLY CATCH MY BREATH!

I'VE GOT TO GET THERE BEFORE YOUR PALS SUCCEED IN FRAMING LOIS!

...DROPPING DOWN ATOP HIS DESTINATION IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS

I ONLY HOPE I'M NOT ALREADY TOO LATE!

DOWN THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE CLAMBERS SUPERMAN, BUT AS HE PEERS THRU A WINDOW, HE GASPS....

("-BEHIND THAT DRAPERY!")

("-NOW! TWO PULLS OF THE TRIGGER, AND TWO DEAD COPS WILL BE A SWELL FRAME-UP FOR LOIS LANE!-")

FINDING SUPERMAN IMPERVIOUS TO HIS WEAPONS, LUTHOR DEMATERIALIZES-WHEREUPON THE MAN OF TOMORROW CLUTCHES BENTON AND SPEEDS TO THE DREXMORE HOUSE WHERE ONE OF THE GANGSTERS IS ABOUT TO SHOOT INVESTIGATING POLICEMEN TO FRAME THE UNCONSCIOUS LOIS

I'LL TAKE THOSE!

FLINGING THEM BACK, HE KNOCKS THE GUNMAN UNCONSCIOUS BEFORE HE CAN FIRE AGAIN!

I'LL-!

YOU'LL WHAT?!

IT'S THE STRONG GUY!

AS THE SECOND THUG ATTEMPTS TO FLEE, SUPERMAN JERKS HIM BACK AND TOSSES HIM BEFORE THE GAPING OFFICERS' FEET....

TO YOU-WITH MY BEST REGARDS!

OOF-!

THEN-SNATCHING UP LOIS AND BENTON, SUPERMAN STREAKS THRU THE WINDOW BEFORE THE POLICEMEN CAN ACT!

A CLEAN GETAWAY!

DELIBERATELY, SUPERMAN ZOOMS HIGH UP TOWARD THE STRATOSPHERE SO THAT THE RUSH OF WIND REVIVES LOIS....

WH-WHERE AM I?

SAFE IN MY ARMS!

S-SAFE-??

HOW DID YOU EVER BECOME INVOLVED WITH BENTON?

WHILE IN HIS OFFICE, SADIE GRANVILLE, A DISAPPOINTED JOBSEEKER, TRIED TO SHOOT US. WE STRUGGLED-THE GUN WENT OFF...SHE-SHE DIED....

IS THIS TRUE?

YES-! BUT-IF-IF YOU'LL RELEASE ME UNHARMED I-I'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT-THE SHOOTING!

NO, BENTON! YOU'RE NOT GETTING OFF SO EASILY! YOU INTENDED TO PIN A MURDER RAP ON LOIS BACK AT THE DREXMORE HOME-IT'S ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT FAKING KILLINGS IS A SPECIALTY OF YOURS!

THEN-YOU THINK..?

DOWN PLUMMETS SUPERMAN TO A WINDOW OF BENTON'S OFFICE....

WH-WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO?

TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT YOUR FILES. I MAY FIND SOMETHING THAT WILL CLEAR LOIS!

ANY LUCK?

I'M AFRAID NOT!

THERE! MAYBE NOW YOU'LL BELIEVE MY STORY IS ON THE UP-AND-UP!

SUDDENLY...THE DOOR OPENS, A GUN IS JAMMED INTO LOIS' BACK!

DON'T MOVE!

?

NICE WORK, SADIE!-NOW SUPERMAN, I'LL MAKE THE TERMS! LEAVE THIS OFFICE AT ONCE-UNLESS YOU WANT TO SEE LOIS SHOT DOWN BEFORE YOUR EYES!

("-GOT TO STALL FOR TIME!-")

I'M SORRY, LOIS-I-I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE.

IT'S ALL RIGHT.... AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME!

ABRUPTLY REACHING BACK, LOIS SHOVES UP THE GUN....

SO THE "DEATH" WAS A FRAME-UP... YOU DIDN'T DIE, AFTER ALL....!

WHAT-?!?

...SADIE FIRES AT THE SAME MOMENT!

YOUR AIM IS POOR, SADIE-VERY POOR!

BUT I WON'T MISS THIS TIME!

NOT IF YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO FIRE!

THE GUN!-I'VE GOT THE GUN!!

AS BENTON SNATCHES AT THE FALLEN GUN, SUPERMAN LEAPS TOWARD HIM....

NOW THAT I'VE GOT THE GUN...

YOU LIKE GUNS, EH?

SUPERMAN

SHARPLY BRINGING DOWN THE EDGE OF HIS HAND, SUPERMAN SHEARS THRU THE METAL WEAPON....

WELL HERE'S TWO OF THEM!

G-GOOD GRIEF!

THERE'S INK AND PAPER! WRITE A FULL CONFESSION!

AWK! LEGGO MY COLLAR! I'LL WRITE IT!

AS SOON AS I FINISH WITH SADIE, I'LL START ON BENTON!

GET ME THE POLICE--!

IN THAT CASE, YOU DON'T NEED ME ANY LONGER. GOODBYE, LOIS--AND DO TRY TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE IF POSSIBLE

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LATER-- LOIS DASHES INTO EDITOR TAYLOR'S OFFICE AT THE DAILY PLANET...

LOIS! IT'S NICE TO....

SORRY, CLARK! NO TIME FOR THAT KIND OF TALK NOW. CHIEF, I'VE GOT A STORY FOR YOU THAT WILL MAKE EVERY OTHER EDITOR IN TOWN TURN SICK WITH ENVY!

YOU HAVE?

SUPERMAN

GREAT, EH?

I SHOULD SAY IT IS! LOIS--YOU'RE REHIRED! AND AT AN INCREASE IN SALARY!

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THAT'S--THAT'S SWELL!

OH YES, CLARK. WHAT DID YOU WANT TO SEE ME ABOUT?

ER--NOTHING IMPORTANT.

("--I DON'T THINK CLARK WAS TELLING TAYLOR THE TRUTH JUST THEN! AND WHEN HE WALKS OFF I'M GOING TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE SHEETS HE'S TEARING!--")

HE HAD ALREADY WRITTEN UP THE SAME YARN--BUT DESTROYED THE STORY SO THAT I COULD GET MY JOB BACK! --I'M AFRAID I'VE MISJUDGED CLARK. HE'S-- HE'S OKAY!!

("--THIS BUSINESS OF BEING AT ODDS WITH LOIS BECAUSE I MUST CONCEAL MY TRUE IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN IS MOST INCONVENIENT--ESPECIALLY SINCE I CARE A GREAT DEAL FOR HER COMPANY. BUT SECRET OR NO SECRET, HERE GOES!--")

SUPERMAN

ER-MAY I HAVE A DATE WITH YOU TONIGHT, LOIS?

A DATE? PLEASE EXCUSE ME, CLARK! I CAN'T HELP LAUGHING!

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I FAIL TO SEE ANYTHING FOR YOU TO LAUGH AT, UNLESS YOU CONSIDER MY REQUEST FOR A DATE EXCRUCIATINGLY FUNNY.

I'M NOT LAUGHING AT YOU, CLARK. IT'S THIS LETTER....I'VE NEVER READ ANYTHING SO SILLY--OR PATHETIC--IN MY LIFE!

LETTER?? WHAT ABOUT IT?

YOU'LL HAVE TO READ IT YOURSELF--TO FULLY APPRECIATE IT!

GO AHEAD--READ IT!

"DEAR LOVELORN EDITOR--PARDON ME IF I ANNOY YOU WITH THE DISTURBING PROBLEM THAT VEXES ME, BUT I HOPE YOU CAN HELP ME. I'M 28 AND TIMID--IN FACT, I'M AFRAID I'M BURDENED WITH A TERRIFIC INFERIORITY COMPLEX!"

SUPERMAN

INFERIORITY COMPLEX. MY SHYNESS HAS ALWAYS EXPOSED ME TO RIDICULE. MY PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IS THAT I'M DESPERATELY IN LOVE WITH MY EMPLOYER'S DAUGHTER, BUT FEAR TO ASSERT MYSELF,--WHAT CAN I DO?

VERY, VERY SINCERELY,

Eustace Watson

ROOM 306 321 FOREST ST. CITY

P.S. DON'T RECOMMEND A PSYCHIATRIST--I'VE SEEN DOZENS, BUT NO LUCK!

ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE THIS UNFORTUNATE CHAP SOME GOOD ADVICE?

WHAT WOULD BE THE USE? HE WOULDN'T FOLLOW IT ANYWAY!

("--THIS FELLOW AND HIS PROBLEM MAY SEEM PETTY, BUT TO HIM IT'S THE GREATEST CRISIS IN THE WORLD! BIG PROBLEMS INTEREST ME AND SO IT LOOKS AS IF EUSTACE AND SUPERMAN ARE GOING TO GET AQUAINTED!--)

HAVING TAKEN AN INTEREST IN THE TROUBLES OF EUSTACE WATSON SUPERMAN WATCHES HIM UNOBSERVED...

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE DRESS SO RAPIDLY--AND JUST BECAUSE HE AWOKE TEN MINUTES LATER THAN USUAL!

SUPERMAN

WHAT HAVE WE FOR BREAKFAST, MRS. CALLAHAN?

THE USUAL THING. GRAPEFRUIT AND LETTUCE SALAD. YOU OUGHT TO KNOW.... YOU'VE HAD IT DAILY FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS!

BUT YOU KNOW, MRS. CALLAHAN THAT I DESPISE GRAPEFRUIT AND LETTUCE SALAD....

YOU EAT IT--AND LIKE IT!

MINUTES LATER, WATSON DASHES OUT ONTO THE STREET, UNAWARE OF THE MAN OF TOMORROW'S OBSERVATION...

HE BARELY MADE THE STREET CAR! AND IT LOOKED TO ME AS THO THE CONDUCTOR DELIBERATELY SPEEDED UP WHEN HE SAW EUSTACE COMING!

A SEAT EMPTY! HOW FORTUNATE!

SUPERMAN

BUT AS EUSTACE IS ABOUT TO SEAT HIMSELF....

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OUTA MY WAY!

BUT--!

HO! HO!--BEAT YOU TO THE SEAT AGAIN!--JUST AS I'VE DONE EVERY MORNING FOR YEARS--!

ER--I--I DON'T MIND STANDING--ANYWAY....

WATSON DIDN'T EXAGGERATE! HE IS THE ACME OF TIMIDITY!--IF I DIDN'T FEEL SO SORRY FOR HIM, HE'D DISGUST ME!

EVENING... AS EUSTACE WATSON PREPARES TO RETIRE, HIS THOUGHTS ARE FAR FROM CHEERFUL...

A CONTEST TOMORROW- FOR THE POSITION OF GENERAL MANAGER. MY OPPONENT: GEORGE BIGS. THE PRIZE: JUNE CARLSON!- I HAVEN'T A CHANCE!

NO CHANCE, EH? MAYBE I CAN MAKE HIM SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY!

WHO-(G-GULP!) ARE Y-YOU ??

THE SOLUTION TO YOUR PROBLEMS!

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SUPERMAN

BUT-!

I KNOW JUST WHAT PROBLEMS CONFRONT YOU. AND I'VE COME TO OFFER MY ASSISTANCE.

THIS IS MOST EXTRAORDINARY. A MAN CLIMBS IN THRU THE WINDOW FROM OUT OF NO-WHERE-AND OFFERS TO HELP ME!-BUT WHAT CAN **YOU** DO!

I'LL SHOW YOU!

SUPERMAN

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THIS, FOR ONE THING!

YEEEEEE!!

THIS IS INCREDIBLE! I-I CAN'T BELIEVE MY SENSES!

YOU'RE THE TOUGH-EST GUY TO CONVINCE I'VE EVER ENCOUNT-ERED!

I'M LIFTING A STEAM-SHOVEL OVERHEAD. YOU CAN SEE **THAT** CAN'T YOU?

YES, BUT...

SUPERMAN

-AND I'M WHIRLING IT ABOUT LIKE A TOY! SURELY YOU BELIEVE YOUR **OWN EYES?**

YOUR STRENGTH IS AMAZING-SPECTACULAR!

NOW THAT **THAT'S** SETTLED, LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!

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AS I UNDERSTAND IT, YOU'RE OFFERING TO HELP ME WITH YOUR TREMENDOUS POWERS. BUT-GRANT-ING THAT YOU DO **EXIST**-THIS IS WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND! **WHY?**

I **LIKE** TO HELP PEOPLE. WHEN I SEE SOMEONE IN A TOUGH SPOT, I FEEL AN IRRESIST-IBLE URGE TO PLAY GUARDIAN ANGEL.. I'M FUNNY THAT WAY!

BUT EVEN IF YOU WANT TO HELP ME, **WHAT** CAN YOU DO?

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THAT OUR BUILD IS VERY SIMILAR. MIND IF I DON ONE OF YOUR SUITS?

SUPERMAN

AFTER **SUPERMAN** PUTS ON EUSTACE'S GARMENTS...

THERE: NOW DON'T WE RE-SEMBLE EACH OTHER?

ALL BUT OUR FACES. I'M AFRAID YOU CAN'T DO MUCH ABOUT **THAT!**

OH CAN'T I? JUST WATCH!

DELIBERATE-LY THE MAN OF TOMORROW TWISTS HIS FLEXIBLE FEATURES...

....INTO A STARTLING TRANSFORMATION

THERE!

AMAZING! BEYOND BELIEF! I-I MEAN **YOU-WE** LOOK EXACTLY **ALIKE!**

WHERE ARE WE GOING **NOW?**

TO AN APARTMENT BELONGING TO SOME ACQUAINTANCES OF MINE.

YOU'RE TO REMAIN HERE WHILE **I**, DISGUISED AS **YOU**, TAKE YOUR PLACE IN LIFE FOR SEVERAL HOURS, AND GET THOSE ORDERS FOR YOU....UNDERSTAND?

I-UNDERSTAND....

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SUPERMAN

WAIT! LET ME EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE!

SAVE YOUR THANKS UNTIL WE KNOW WHETHER THIS PLAN TURNS OUT TO BE SUCCESSFUL.

RETURNING TO EUSTACE'S APART-MENT, THE DISGUISED **SUPERMAN** CLIMBS INTO HIS BED AND RETIRES FOR THE EVENING....

WHAT A DAY TOMORROW IS GOING TO BE!

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IN ORDER TO ASSIST EUSTACE WATSON, A MEEK INDIVIDUAL WHO IS TAKEN AD-VANTAGE OF BY EVERYONE, **SUPERMAN** DISGUISES HIMSELF AS WATSON.-A RINGING ALARM CLOCK AWAKENS **SUPERMAN**....

SO IT'S THAT PESKY ALARM CLOCK, EH?-I'LL FIX IT!!

A POWERFUL PUFF FROM THE **MAN OF TOMORROW'S** LUNGS AND THE CLOCK ZOOMS ACROSS THE ROOM TO CRASH AGAINST THE WALL....

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!

P-O-O-O

SUPERMAN

WAKE UP, MR. WATSON! GET UP! GET UP! YOU'RE LATE!

STOP THAT POUNDING, **DO YOU HEAR?** I'LL SLEEP 'TIL DOOMSDAY IF I WANT TO-**SEE?**

Y-YES, MR. WATSON.

("-THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER KNOWN HIM TO LIFT HIS VOICE TO ME OR **ANYONE**!-")

QUITE PLEASED WITH THE IMPRESSION MADE ON THE LANDLADY, **SUPERMAN**, DISGUISED AS WATSON, WALKS JAUNTILY TOWARD THE STREET CAR STOP..

I MUST SAY I HANDLED THAT RATHER NEATLY!

HERE COMES THAT MOUSEY GUY AGAIN! I'LL GIVE HIM A RUN FOR HIS MONEY!

AS THE STREETCAR SPEEDS BY....

HEY-WAIT-!

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UNDAUNTED, **SUPERMAN** OVERTAKES THE STREETCAR WITH TWO GREAT VAULTS....

MADE IT!

"MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYBODY! LET'S REMEMBER TO BE GENEROUS TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THAN OURSELVES...

SUPERMAN

AH-AN EMPTY SEAT!

BEAT YOU TO IT, AGAIN!

NOT THIS TIME!

SO SWIFTLY THAT THE EYE CAN SCARCELY FOLLOW, **SUPERMAN** SWOOPS INTO POSITION BEFORE THE PORTLY ONE TOUCHES THE SEAT....

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HUH?

YOU'RE ACTING RATHER STRANGELY, AREN'T YOU?

SUPERMAN

I WAS ENTITLED TO THAT SEAT! I'VE HALF A NOTION TO THRASH YOU!

I SEE YOU CARRY A WATCH. MAY I BORROW IT FOR A MOMENT?

HERE IT IS! AND TAKE A **GOOD LOOK**- BECAUSE IN TEN SECONDS I'M GOING TO **HAUL OFF AND SOCK YOU!**

THANKS!

WHAT A **PITY**!-AND IT WAS SUCH A **FINE WATCH!**

WH-WHA..??

CRACK

OVERCOME AT WHAT HE HAS SEEN, THE PORTLY ONE BEATS A HASTY EXIT.....

THE WAY HE CRUSHED THAT METAL IN HIS BARE HAND...! MY GOSH! WHEN I USED TO ANNOY THAT GUY, I NEVER REALIZED I WAS TAMPERING WITH **HUMAN DYNAMITE!**

AS THE DISGUISED **SUPERMAN** ENTERS THE OFFICE BUILDING WHERE WATSON WORKS, HE IS HALTED BY THE NEWS DEALER....

YOU SIMPLY MUST TAKE A COUPLE BOXES OF **LA FUME CIGARS!**

THEY'RE GOOD, EH?

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SUPERMAN

TAKING THE NEWSDEALER BY SURPRISE, **SUPERMAN** RAMS SEVERAL OF THE CIGARS INTO HIS MOUTH AND LIGHTS THEM...

GO AHEAD! **PUFF AWAY!**

UGH!

SPUTTER!

STILL THINK THEY'RE GOOD?

OHH-HHH! **THEY'RE AWFUL!**

COUGH!

SO WHAT IF YOU ARE LATE AND LOSE YOUR JOB? WE DON'T MOVE UNTIL I FINISH THIS ARTICLE!

GO RIGHT AHEAD. AND YOU CAN READ THE FUNNIES, TOO- **I'M IN NO HURRY!**

"EUSTACE WATSON" CERTAINLY IS FULL OF SURPRISES!- **WHAT NEXT?**

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IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST EUSTACE WATSON, A SHY INDIVIDUAL, **SUPERMAN** HAS DISGUISED HIMSELF AS WATSON, AND AGREED TO TAKE HIS PLACE FOR ONE DAY. BUT NOW, AS THE PSEUDO-WATSON ENTERS THE CARLSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, HE IS GREETED BY THE IRATE OFFICE MANAGER.

THIS IS **UNPARDONABLE!** WATSON-YOU ARE A **FULL HALF HOUR LATE!**

YOU DON'T SAY? WELL-THANK YOU FOR CALLING IT TO MY ATTENTION!

IS THAT (-SPUTTER-) **ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?**

HUH?

NO.-I MIGHT ADD THAT I'M TO BE THE FUTURE GENERAL MANAGER OF THIS FIRM, AND THAT IF YOU WANT TO HOLD ONTO YOUR PRESENT POSITION, YOU'D BETTER BE NICE TO ME!

SUPERMAN

WE'LL BEGIN WITH THESE PAPERS YOU PUT ON MY DESK. **YOU** ATTEND TO THEM!

BUT-IT WILL TAKE ME **DAYS..!**

WELL, WELL! IF IT ISN'T THE NEW GENERAL MANAGER-**YOU** THINK!

FEELING PLAYFUL THIS MORNING, EH?

WELL-**SO DO I!**

YOU RIPPED MY TIE CLEAR OFF, YOU...!

AH-AH! WATCH YOUR TONGUE! HERE COMES A LADY!

DAD WANTS TO SEE BOTH YOU BOYS!

THERE'S A LIST OF FOUR NAMES FOR EACH OF YOU. REMEMBER. WHOEVER GETS THE MOST AND LARGEST ORDERS WILL BE MY NEXT GENERAL MANAGER.

WISH ME LUCK, JUNE.

LUCK? ER-NATURALLY, GOOD LUCK GEORGE.

("-I **DO** HOPE EUSTACE WINS AND THAT HE HAS NERVE ENOUGH TO PROPOSE!-")

AND **THIS** IS FOR **OUR** GOOD LUCK!

MORE, LATER!

!

YOU'D BETTER GET GOING! IT LOOKS LIKE WATSON HAS ALREADY **STOLEN A MARCH ON YOU!**

SUPERMAN